

REMARKS

The examiner has rejected claims 6 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by LONEGRO et al. The examiner has rejected claims 7 – 9 and 11 - 13 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over LONEGRO et al. in view of FITZGERALD, Jr. et al. Applicants respectfully traverse.

The independent claims recite that repositioning of dimensions occurs in response to a user *dragging* the dimension to a desired position. More specifically, the claimed system enables users to readily reposition any dimension that is already displayed and defined. The repositioning can be performed any number of times.

LONEGRO et al. do not discuss or suggest repositioning of a dimension by dragging. LONEGRO et al. only describe one time positioning of a dimension that is just created and not yet defined, i.e., not set in position. Once LONEGRO et al.'s dimension is defined, the position cannot be changed, unless the dimension is deleted and a new dimension is created. Deleting and creating dimensions is a time consuming process, and not nearly as efficient as the claimed repositioning.

Put another way, paragraphs 56 and 71 of applicants specification discuss how once the dimension has been defined, it can be repositioned by placing the mouse cursor on any part of the dimension, including the arrow line, the extension lines or one of the selected entities, and dragging the dimension to a preferred position. Although LONEGRO et al. discuss display of a moving image of the dimension, it is submitted that

“dragging” is not disclosed because dragging inherently includes selecting a dimension that is already displayed by placing the cursor on some part of the dimension, and then moving it to the preferred location. The difference is related to the fact that the claimed system repositions dimensions, whereas LONEGRO et al. merely discuss initially positioning the dimensions. An advantage of being able to reposition, is that while designing a part, the original location of the dimensions may become obscured by the placement of a newly added feature, and repositioning can improve the visibility.

As noted previously, LONEGRO et al. discuss selecting a position for the dimension and then displaying the dimension in the selected location. In fact, LONEGRO et al. describe selecting the object, and not the dimension itself. In the case where multiple dimensions exist for an object, LONEGRO et al.’s solution of selecting the object would not indicate which dimension to select.

FITZGERALD, Jr. et al. do not supply the deficiencies of LONEGRO et al. Thus, it is requested that the Examiner withdraw the rejections of the independent claims.

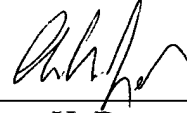
The dependent claims are also believed to recite further patentable subject matter of the invention and therefore are also believed allowable over the prior art. As such, allowance of the dependent claims is deemed proper for at least the same reasons noted for the independent claims, in addition to reasons related to their own recitations. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the outstanding rejections and an indication of the allowability of all of the claims in the present application.

Entry of the present paper is believed to be proper, even though this case is subject to a final rejection. That is, the claims have not been amended and no new issues have been raised that would require further search or consideration by the Examiner.

Should the Examiner have any questions, please contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,
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